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MEMBER JURISDICTIONS

December 1, 2017

CHESAPEAKE

The Honorable Terence R. McAuliffe
Governor, Commonwealth of Virginia
P.O. Box 1475
Richmond, VA 23218

The Honorable Ralph S. Northam
Governor-Elect, Commonwealth of Virginia
PO Box 1195
Richmond, Virginia, 23218

FRANKLIN

GLOUCESTER

RE: Creation of Virginia Chief Resiliency Officer

HAMPTON

Dear Governor McAuliffe and Governor-Elect Northam:

ISLE OF WIGHT

On behalf of the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission (HRPDC), I am writing to request your assistance in creating a Cabinet-level position that would allow this appointed individual to focus exclusively on coordinating local, state and federal efforts related to coastal resiliency and recurrent flooding.

JAMES CITY

NEWPORT NEWS

The HRPDC is comprised of 17 local government members that represent over 1.7 million people in the Hampton Roads region. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the attached Regional Legislative Agenda, which includes support for the creation of a Stand-alone Virginia Chief Resiliency Officer position.

NORFOLK

POQUOSON

As you are aware, recurrent flooding and sea level rise are critical issues for our region. As home to the largest naval base in the world and the Virginia Port Authority, Hampton Roads and the Commonwealth of Virginia must proactively address these issues to ensure national security and the economic wellbeing of our Commonwealth and Nation are not impacted.

PORTSMOUTH

SMITHFIELD

The creation of a Chief Resiliency Officer would provide a full-time position to provide leadership and focus exclusively on this critical issue. We believe that existing resources could be reallocated to support this position with minimal financial impact. On behalf of the HRPDC, I urge your consideration of this important request.

SOUTHAMPTON

SUFFOLK

SURRY

Thank you in advance for your leadership on this important issue.

VIRGINIA BEACH

Sincerely,

Dr. Ella P. Ward
Chair

WILLIAMSBURG

YORK

MAILED

DEC - 1 2017

HRPDC